

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

---

1. (currently amended) A method of assembling fence sections, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. assembling fence pickets and rails to form a fence section;
- b. positioning said fence section in the path of a banding machine; and
- c. banding said fence section with ~~at least one~~a band from said banding machine such that said band forms a tight loop that wraps entirely around said rails and holds said fence section together.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said fence section comprises plastic rails and plastic pickets.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said band is plastic ~~and is wrapped entirely around both rails of said section, forming a tight looped band which holds said section together.~~

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2~~1~~, wherein said rails have channels therein for receiving ends of said pickets.

5. (original) The fence section assembled and banded as described in claim 1.

---